

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 322-5475



September 12, 1979

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE No. 1-103-79

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: FOOD STAMP PROGRAM - STANDARD UTILITY UPDATE

As a result of a utility survey conducted by the Food Stamp Systems Bureau, a new state standard utility allowance of \$74 will be promulgated in state regulations effective October 1, 1979 to reflect a seasonal and rate adjustment in utility costs.

Counties will have until December 31, 1979 to convert their entire case-load to the new utility standard. Counties may begin processing cases immediately for October 1 implementation. During the three-month conversion period, the new standard should be used for all new applications and for all recertifications and recomputations within a certification period. When a household reports a change, the case should be updated to reflect the new standard regardless of whether the reported change requires a budget recomputation. For example, when a household reports a change of address the Eligibility Worker would make the address change in the case-file and also update the utility standard to reflect the new \$74 amount. If possible, the current worksheet may be used to document the conversion to the new standard.

The implementation of the new standard constitutes a mass change under Manual Section 63-504.341. The change to the new standard shall not be considered a switch from the actual amounts to the standard for purposes of Section 63-502.353.

Should you have any questions or encounter problems in meeting the deadline, please contact your Food Stamp Program Operations analyst immediately at (916) 322-5475.

Sincerely,

Kyle S. McKinsey
KYLE S. MCKINSEY
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA
FNS/WRO